

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 194

By Evans

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Paul Harvey, Sr., of  
River Forest, Illinois.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Paul Harvey, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harvey was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, known across the United States for his mellifluous voice and Midwestern values, Mr. Harvey was a key figure in American radio journalism, a field in which he worked for roughly seventy-five of his ninety years of life; and

WHEREAS, born in 1918 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Paul Harvey constructed his own radio sets as a child; at the age of fifteen, after persistently lobbying the station manager, he took his first job at KVOO in his hometown; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Mr. Harvey continued to work at KVOO while attending Tulsa University, from which he earned his degree; and

WHEREAS, following his graduation, Paul Harvey held positions with a number of radio stations. It was at KXOK in St. Louis in 1939 that he met Lynne Cooper, whom he called "Angel," the woman he would marry and with whom he would share his life until her death less than a year before his own; and

WHEREAS, in 1940, Mr. Harvey relocated to Hawaii to broadcast for the United States Navy, and he was on a ship, two days out of Pearl Harbor, when the Japanese attacked on December 7, 1941; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, Paul Harvey rendered sterling service to his country as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps and as Director of News and Information for the Office of War Information for Michigan and Indiana; and

WHEREAS, following a medical discharge from the Corps in 1944, Paul Harvey moved to Chicago, where he joined the WENR-ABC family; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Mr. Harvey began writing a syndicated newspaper column entitled "Paul Harvey News," and he also wrote three popular books in the same decade: *Remember These Things*, *Autumn of Liberty*, and *The Rest of the Story*; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey was known widely for his conservative heartland values, which were consistently reflected in his broadcasts, his columns, and his actions; and

WHEREAS, while he was frequently wooed by television broadcast companies, he refused to leave his beloved Midwest and its culture for either of the coasts; his connection to that culture was part of his appeal; and

WHEREAS, he was by no means simply an ideologue for Middle America, though; as early as 1966, when support for the military action in Vietnam may have been strong among many of his listeners, Mr. Harvey publicly voiced opposition to American involvement in Indochina; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harvey gained immense popularity for his balanced, insightful broadcasts; his programs were carried by 1,200 commercial radio stations and 400 stations of the American Forces Radio, while his newspaper column appeared in 300 papers. Twenty-five million people listened to his radio show every day at his career's zenith; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Mr. Harvey garnered an incredible amount of awards, including induction into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1955, the National Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 1979, and the Emerson Radio Hall of Fame in 1990; and

WHEREAS, known for his interest in the well-being of animals, Paul Harvey received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Humane Society of the United States in 1985, the Society's James Herriot Award in 1987, and the Genesis Award from The Fund for Animals in 1986; and

WHEREAS, for his prodigious his professional achievements, the National Broadcasters Association awarded him the Marconi Award four times over the course of his career; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, President George W. Bush presented Paul Harvey with a Presidential Medal of Freedom for his years of broadcasting to the American people; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harvey enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Lynne, and was the proud parent of Paul Harvey, Jr., who joined his father in the radio broadcasting business, writing for his father's famous "The Rest of the Story" show; and

WHEREAS, Paul Harvey, Sr., leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Paul Harvey, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his dedication to radio excellence throughout his many years of broadcasting to the American public.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Harvey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.